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I respectfully urge you to reject NAB's petition 04-160. I have been an XM subscriber for several years now due to the poor quality of local radio and the coverage gaps incurred while travelling. XM's Radio Classics have prevented me from falling asleep on the road in areas where there's no local radio coverage loud enough to cut through the static (Georgia).

Now that I've moved to the D.C. area, XM keeps me safe amidst all the traffic here. WTOPS is great if you travel only the major highways, but is deficient for the local roads that form alternate routes for so many commuters. Not only does XM traffic allow me to hear problems on all the roads I travel, but it's a constant feed so that I can actually hear the traffic report before I get to my decision point: local roads or major highway. This service has been invaluable as I am a shiftworker who frequently drives when extremely tired (i.e. after working a night shift). Without XM's thorough and instant traffic reports, I would be in danger (and endangering others) on the congested roadways.

Please do not allow NAB to squash it's competition through legal rulings. Competitive markets are a vital part of America's free market. The way for NAB to prevent loss of market share is for the local radio stations to improve themselves, not to block inventive new ways to reach people. Satellite radio has improved the quality of my life. I pay for this service and should be allowed to continue to benefit from its programming - including broadcasts of local interest.